

June 1982.

Next Meeting.

As we approach the half way stage of 1982, it is time once again for the Constructors Competition. Entries are invited from all members who will be required to give a short talk about their equipment, its development, performance and any problems. Prizes have been increased this year to first prize £7, second prize £5 and third prize £3. Venue as usual, Marconi College, Arbour Lane, Springfield, Tuesday June 1st at 7.30 p.m.

Meetings to look out for.

July - Talk on Klystrons by Dr.R.Heppinstall of the English Electric Valve Co.

August - Radio Aeronautical Navigational Aids by G3KTF.

October - Annual General Meeting.

Committee Meeting.

Wednesday June 9th 7.30 p.m. Sportsmans Arms, Hatfield Peverel.

Report on last months meeting.

In May we had a talk by Don Scott, the Senior Engineer of Essex Radio. He gave a brief outline of the equipment used in the studios and transmitting stations. It was interesting to hear how the outside broadcasts were brought back to the studio via a vhf link and then on landlines. The outside broadcast van is like a mobile studio, capable of playing discs, tapes and mixing a complete programme. Don also brought some equipment with him, a tape machine for playing cartridges which are used extensively for jingles and adverts, the stations main source of income, a broadcast quality portable transmitter for gathering news items and an AR245 covering the IBA's talk-back frequency very close to the 2m amateur band. The talk was well presented and gave us an interesting look at the operation of our local radio station, and our thanks go to Don and his assistants for their time and for the Essex Radio Car Stickers, key rings and pens that they brought. After the talk, Don said to me that if any members would like to visit the studio, a trip could be arranged. The maximum number at any one time would be five, so if anyone would like to go, if they contact me, we could arrange a visit to Southend.

Tea Break.

I am sure that for many members, the tea break at our meetings provides a refreshing break and a chance to chat to others over a cup of tea. We have enjoyed Ela's tea and biscuits for a long time but now that she has her callsign she feels that she would like to spend more time in the meeting and less time making tea and washing up. Therefore we are looking for volunteers (male or female) who would be prepared to make the tea and wash up on a rota basis. This month Ela and two committee members will be making the tea, but next month we will need some volunteers. So if you or your XYL would like to have a go, your help would be most appreciated.

Visit to Post Office Monitoring Station at Baldock.

By popular request the club has organized another visit on behalf of members, we have negotiated a trip to the Post Office Monitoring Station at Baldock. This follows on from the visit to North Weald, but due to the manning situation at the Station the visit will have to be during a day in the week. Numbers are limited to 10 per visit and the first day has been provisionally set for Tuesday 8th June. If you would like a day off work to go to Baldock please let me know so that I can co-ordinate the trip with the Officer in Charge.

Woburn.

Following the successful trip to Ally Pally, is anyone interested in going to the Woburn Rally on 1st August? If sufficient members wish to go we could organize a mini bus or coach.

During the Mid Thames event a disastrous bearing error of 30° resulted in a very long run in to the first station and consequently a very late arrival at the second station. While trudging away from the transmitter my step was lightened considerably by the sight of last years National Final Winner - still on his way in !

Forthcoming events are on 4th June Colchester; 20th June Dartford Heath; 16th July Chelmsford.

Other News.

I hope everyone has seen the picture at the bottom of Page 431 in the May issue of Radio Communication, it was taken by Roy G3PMX and shows the 25 or so members at the social evening on 15th January.

Raffle prizes for this month include bottles of wine, a pair of pliers and some Plessey I.C's. The Jackpot Raffle prize has not been claimed, so we will have another free draw for the Radio Communication Handbook this month.

73.

Andrew.

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